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By Deane NARS, Date 10/31/74OUTGOING
MESSAGE

U. S. INFORMATION AGENCY

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INFOGUIDE NO. 62-30 APRIL 19, 1962

SENT TO: USIA CIRCULAR

INFOGUIDE: The Problem of Cuba

Reference: Potomac Cables No. 225 of 4/14/62, "The Regime in Cuba"
No. 212 of 2/14/62, "Cuba Walks Out"; No. 208 of 1/31/62
"Punta Del Este"; No. 204 of 1/4/62, "Castro and
Communism in Cuba."

Summary: CASTRO-COMMUNISM PLAYS AN OBSTRUCTIVE, SUBVERSIVE
ROLE IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE. POTOMAC CABLE 225
PROVIDES THEMES FOR TREATMENT.

SITUATION

A primary objective of U.S. policy in Latin America is to help the Latin Americans, through the Alliance for Progress, work toward solution of economic and social problems. All American Republics except Cuba are participating in the Alliance within the Organization of American States. The U.S. Government is committed to this approach, and it is basic to Agency information programs both in the area and about the area.

The Communist bloc is using the Cuban regime to intervene in Latin American countries and obstruct the Alliance for Progress. Fidel Castro has demonstrated his intention to subvert existing governments and destroy democracy throughout the hemisphere. The U.S. looks forward to the emergence of a representative Cuban government which will share the objectives of the OAS and permit Cuba to return to the American community.

TREATMENT

Drawing upon the findings of the January 1962 conference of foreign ministers at Punta Del Este (Potomac Cable No. 208), you

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should make clear that communism in Cuba represents a Sino-Soviet intrusion into the hemisphere to undermine political, social and economic progress. Do not represent the Alliance for Progress as a U.S.-proffered alternative to Castro-Communism; instead, without reference to Cuba, show that the U.S. and its Latin American partners are proceeding with a positive program.

The nature of the Castro-Communist regime is illustrated by its suppression of basic human rights and freedoms inside Cuba and its subversive activities elsewhere. You should cite evidence of the nature of the regime to demonstrate the extent to which Castro-Communism has turned Cuba into a threat to the security of her neighbors.

Your discussion of Cuba -- including economic and agricultural failures of the regime -- should be factual and dispassionate. Do not gloat over Castro-Communism's failures.

The themes in Potomac Cable No. 225 are recommended for both attributed and unattributed use.

CAUTIONS

(1) Evidences of a growing breach between old-line and neo-Communists in Cuba require careful handling. Through discreet reporting we should (a) contribute to such differences inside Cuba, and elsewhere to awareness of the differences, but (b) avoid treatment which might incline the disputants to heal the breach and close ranks, or seem to do so.

(2) Refer to "the Castro-Communist regime" or use such variants as "the Cuban Communist regime," "the present government in Cuba." Avoid using "the Castro regime," "Castro" or "Fidelismo."

BACKGROUND

Recent events have brought the Cuban problem into sharper

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focus. The OAS meeting of Foreign Ministers at Punta del Este, Uruguay, in January 1962 resulted in unanimous (except for Cuba) repudiation of communism in the Western Hemisphere, and a two-thirds majority decision to exclude Cuba from the OAS.

Meanwhile, in Cuba, the regime has publicly proclaimed its Communist nature and a power struggle appears to be shaping up between old-line and neo-Communists. This phase began with Castro's "I am a Marxist-Leninist" speech of December 2, 1961, followed by the announced merger of dissident revolutionary elements into a unified directorate -- headed by Castro and including some known Communists -- which, presumably, will eventually make way for a single elite party, Soviet-bloc style.

There is considerable pulling and hauling behind the facade of collective leadership. In a speech on March 26 Castro delivered a blistering attack on old-line Communists for "sectarian" activities (i. e., arrogating power, position and privilege to themselves) and read one of the top old-line Cuban communists, Anibal Escalante, out of the party and out of Cuba.

Whatever the picture within Cuba, Castro-Communism poses dangers to progress and free institutions in the Western Hemisphere. Castro-Communist propaganda and subversive activities are being intensified throughout the hemisphere. They seek to (1) sow distrust of the U.S. and its support of development programs, (2) stir discontent, unrest and outright rebellion, (3) identify Cuba with the aspirations of Latin American people, (4) discredit the governing classes as roadblocks to progress and tools of Yankee imperialism.

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